

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-08

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SS-15 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06
AID-05 IO-13 /082 R

DRAFTED BY:AF/E:GWSMOTT
APPROVED BY:P:MR.HABIB
AF:WEDMONDSON
S/S-MR.BRIDGES

-----262258 063819 /62

R 261657Z FEB 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 043617

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SU, US, ET, LY

SUBJECT: SUDAN'S VIEWS OF DEVELOPMENTS IN THE HORN

1. ON FEBRUARY 25 SUDANESE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS FRANCIS DENG, CALLED ON MR. HABIB, UNDER SECRETARY FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS. DENG NOTED THAT SUDAN'S RECENT DOMESTIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS HAD PROMISED TO PROVIDE A BASE TO PERMIT KHARTOUM TO PLAY A CONSTRUCTIVE AND MODERATING ROLE IN THE INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS OF THE AREA. UNFORTUNATELY, SUDAN WAS INSTEAD THREATENED BY RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN ETHIOPIA, ABETTED BY LIBYA'S CONTINUING EFFORT

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TO DISRUPT SUDAN'S DOMESTIC TRANQUILITY.

2. DENG NOTED THAT SUDAN WAS NOT SO WELL INFORMED AS THE US CONCERNING EVENTS IN ETHIOPIA. ON THE BROADER POLICY QUESTIONS, HOWEVER, THE SUDANESE GOVERNMENT BELIEVED THE US SHOULD EXAMINE ITS POLICIES TOWARD ETHIOPIA CAREFULLY. IF, ON ANALYSIS, IT WAS CLEAR THAT AMERICAN

SUPPORT HAD NOT SUCCESSFULLY ENCOURAGED THE ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT TO MOVE IN THE PROPER DIRECTION, THEN THE US SHOULD CONSIDER ALTERNATIVES TO ITS PRESENT COURSE. DENG SAID THE SUDAN AND A NUMBER OF OTHER COUNTRIES IN THE AREA BELIEVED IN STABILITY, THE AVOIDANCE OF NEGATIVE GREAT POWER RIVALRY IN THE HORN, AND THE REDUCTION OF THE

SOVIET PRESENCE IN THE AREA.

3. HABIB AGREED WITH THE IMPORTANCE OF ENCOURAGING REGIONAL STABILITY AND SAID THE US LOOKED TO THE AREA COUNTRIES DIRECTLY CONCERNED TO TAKE THE LEAD IN DEVELOPING POLICIES THAT WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO GREATER REGIONAL STABILITY. DENG REPLIED THAT THE VARIOUS COUNTRIES WERE ATTEMPTING TO COME TO A COMMON UNDERSTANDING OF THE REGIONAL PROBLEM, AFTER WHICH SUDAN WOULD SHARE A SET OF CONCRETE PROPOSALS WITH THE US, PREFERABLY DURING THE VISIT FOREIGN MINISTER MANSUR KHALID HOPED TO MAKE AROUND MARCH 17. HABIB REPLIED THAT THE US NOT ONLY FAVORED SUCH A COMMON EFFORT BUT LOOKED FORWARD TO HEARING THE PROPOSALS.

4. HABIB SAID THAT THE EGYPTIANS, THE SAUDIS, AND EVEN THE ISRAELIS WERE CONCERNED BY THE UNCERTAIN FUTURE OF THE HORN. DENG REPLIED THAT ISRAEL HAD SOMETIMES BEEN MENTIONED AS A FACTOR IN DISRUPTIONS IN SOUTHERN SUDAN. HABIB NOTED THE IMPLIED SUGGESTION THAT THE ISRAELIS BE ENCOURAGED NOT TO SUPPORT EFFORTS WHICH DISRUPTED THE AREA. HE ASSURED DENG THAT THE US APPRECIATED SUDAN'S

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STABILIZING ROLE AND DID NOT CREDIT THE KHARTOUM GOVERNMENT WITH ANY AGGRESSIVE INTENTIONS. AMERICAN MILITARY ASSISTANCE POLICIES WOULD NOT DISCRIMINATE AGAINST THE SUDAN.

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Sent Date: 26-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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